

DOCKET NO: 205381US2

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT & TRADEMARK OFFICE

IN RE APPLICATION OF

KAZUYUKI SEKI, ET AL.

SERIAL NO: 09/821,248

FILED: MARCH 30, 2001

FOR: IMAGE INPUT APPARATUS,
PROGRAM EXECUTED BY COMPUTER,
AND METHOD FOR PREPARING
DOCUMENT WITH IMAGE



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: EXAMINER: YE, L.

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: GROUP ART UNIT: 2615

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PROVISIONAL ELECTION

COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
ALEXANDRIA, VIRGINIA 22313

SIR:

In response to the Restriction Requirement dated December 7, 2004, applicants elect the invention of Group III, identifying Claims 50-60 as readable on the elected invention.

The Restriction Requirement is respectfully traversed based on MPEP §803, which states:

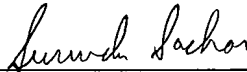
... If the search and examination of an entire application can be made without serious burden, the Examiner must examine it on the merits, even though it includes claims to independent or distinct inventions.

The claims of the present invention would appear to be part of an overlapping search area. Accordingly, the outstanding Restriction Requirement is respectfully traversed on the grounds that a search and examination of the entire application would not place a *serious* burden on the Examiner.

As the claims of the present invention would appear to be part of an overlapping search area, it is respectfully requested that the Requirement to elect a single invention be withdrawn, and that a full examination on the merits of Claims 1-60 be conducted.

Respectfully submitted,

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